

THE THOUGHT FARTHEST OUT

by
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ONE THOUGHT MORE

My dear reader, since you have been so kind as to have accompanied me without complaint upon this little journey to the island farthest out, and since you have listened to my conversations so patiently all along the way, now that the journey is over and we have returned again to your home and fireside, I trust that you will not mind, if, before I take leave of you, I tarry a moment to rest by your open hearth and, while tarrying, unpack from my knapsack one thought more that I hope you will treasure as a gift of some value. It is an old thought — as old as time, but as fresh and new as every day that dawns: AS A MAN THINKETH IN HIS HEART SO IS HE.

The journey has revealed to me, as it may have done to you, that all of our troubles and all of our sins are caused by lack of inner understanding of things as they are, by lack of vision, if you will. What bothers us is the blur. Most people when they face their troubles or face their sins, or other person's troubles and sins, are like unfocused opera glasses. Turn the screw a little and there you are! A person who is equipped, who is perfect master of bringing himself or keeping himself always in focus, is prepared for any emergency that may confront him.

Of course this is just another way of saying what this book has been saying all along, that all that is required is to bring yourself into balance, like a cat. But whether you achieve this on the principle of the opera glass or on the principle of the cat, the principle is the same. It is this:

You attract to yourself

not the condition you ASK
not the condition you EXPECT
not the condition you WANT

**BUT YOU ATTRACT UNTO YOURSELF THE CONDITION THAT ACCORDS WITH
WHAT YOU ARE!**

Prayer, like friendship, is largely a divine recompense on a basis of absolute fairness of exactly what you are. As I am in my heart, so am I in the world outside. As I measure to others, so shall it be measured unto me.

It cannot be otherwise.

Prayer, in so far as you hope it will change the outward conditions about you, must first of all

change conditions within you. If you want something in the world changed, first change yourself, then go and lay your need before the altar, and your Father who rewardeth in absolute fairness will reward you.

Do you want a balanced world? Then get a balanced personality. And how do you get anything? You get only by giving. As you give you shall receive.

Do you want to GET a whole personality — then go and GIVE a whole personality. Give to whom? It doesn't matter, for God is all about you. Give it to the least of those about you — give it to the greatest of those about you. This is what sets one so marvelously free — free from surroundings, from environment, from everything. It doesn't matter to whom or to what one gives oneself — it only matters HOW one gives oneself. The light — the love — the joy — the abundance with which you give yourself attracts the same that is outside of you to you. It cannot be otherwise.

WHAT ARE YOU?

ARE YOU A GIVING PERSON? If you are, the world will be giving to you. ARE YOU A GETTING PERSON? If you are, the world will be getting all it can away from you.

Do YOU GIVE POWERFULLY? Then Power will come to you.
Do YOU GIVE LOVINGLY? Then Love will come to you.
Do YOU GIVE BEAUTIFULLY? Then Beauty will come to you.
Do YOU GIVE ABUNDANTLY? Then Abundance will come to you.

For to him who hath (and gives away what he hath) to him shall be given, and he who hath not (and clings to what little he hath) the same shall be taken from him that which he hath. He who saveth his life shall lose it, and he who loseth his life shall save it.

What shall you give? Most beautiful, most powerful, most wonderful of all gifts is yourself, your faith, your trust, your love. Trust men, trust God, trust events. And the most powerful, most beautiful of all giving is forgiving your enemies, your persecutors. If you really do that once, then you become irresistible. After that you will draw all things to you. For then you are perfect even as your heavenly Father is perfect.

For again let me repeat: You ATTRACT UNTO YOURSELF THE CONDITION THAT ACCORDS WITH WHAT YOU ARE; AND IF YOU ARE PERFECT, YOU DRAW PERFECTION TO YOU.

The difference between the fine gold of God's love and the common clay of human love, is that we HAVE love, but it flees away if we are mistreated or neglected. GOD IS LOVE, and like the sunshine, which shines upon the just and the unjust, He rains it down unceasingly upon all, regardless of whether they mistreat Him or neglect Him. We love men so long as they return that love, but cease loving them the moment it is withdrawn from us; God loves because men NEED love. Such love is like the fine fragrance of a rose that pours out the riches of its spirit to bless all that come within its radius.

Do not HAVE Love. BE Love. AND THEN YOU WILL ATTRACT ALL THE GOODNESS, ALL THE PERFECTION THAT THE WORLD HAS IN STORE FOR YOU TO YOU; YOU WILL DRAW THE VERY KINGDOM OF HEAVEN ITSELF DOWN TO THE EARTH. When your Power to Love becomes like God's Power to Love, then your Power to create will become like God's power to create.

Behold there are three doors to the kingdom of LOVE. The first door is of the flesh, and many

are they who find it. The second is of the intellect, and here the road begins to narrow. The third is of the spirit, and few are they who find it. Judas gave Jesus only ONE kiss. The people of Sychar could keep Jesus only TWO days. But Jesus made Peter say he loved him THREE times. If you wish to betray your master, it is because you have gone through only one door. You have Love, but you possess it by so tenuous a thread that you could easily lose it, even if it is love for a friend. If you feel merely a formal curiosity of and about the Master, like many orthodox church-goers, it is because you have gone in only two doors. Again you have Love, but you could still lose it, especially if it were love for your enemies. But if it is the desire of your heart to serve your Master all the days of your life, if your heart belongs to Him wholly, completely, utterly, till you dwell in Him and He dwells in you, then you no longer HAVE LOVE . . . THENCEFORTH YOU ARE LOVE and all the principalities and powers cannot then separate you from the Love of God. AND THE KEYS OF THE KINGDOM ARE YOURS, AND ALL THE POWERS OF HELL SHALL NOT PREVAIL AGAINST IT; WHATEVER YOU PROHIBIT ON EARTH WILL BE PROHIBITED IN HEAVEN, AND WHATEVER YOU PERMIT ON EARTH WILL BE PERMITTED IN HEAVEN.

AND THE MOMENT THAT YOU BECOME LOVE, THENCEFORTH WHATEVER YOU ASK SHALL BE YOURS.
WHATEVER YOU EXPECT SHALL BE YOURS.
WHATEVER YOU WANT SHALL BE YOURS.

FOR YOU SHALL THENCEFORTH ASK FOR, AND EXPECT, AND WANT, ONLY THAT WHICH IS IN ACCORD WITH THE SPIRIT OF INFINITE LOVE. FOR YOU ARE LOVE AND LOVE IS THE POWER THAT DRAWS ALL THINGS INTO PERFECTLY ADJUSTED AND HARMONIOUS ACTIVITY. YOU HENCEFORTH ATTRACT UNTO YOU THE CONDITION THAT ACCORDS WITH WHAT YOU ARE.

I AM ASKING THE FATHER THAT YOU WHO SHALL READ THIS LITTLE MESSAGE, SHALL CATCH ITS SPIRIT AND UNDERSTAND IT. AND WHOEVER CATCHES THE SPIRIT OF IT AND MAKES IT HIS OWN NEED ONLY WISH FOR PROSPERITY, ATTAINMENT, HAPPINESS — YES, BLESSING AND PEACE — AND IT WILL COME TO HIM. OF THIS I HAVE NO DOUBT — IT CANNOT BE OTHERWISE.